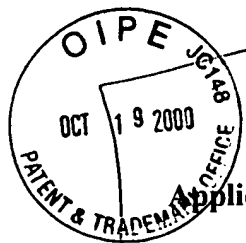


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GP-1744



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Gideon Eden

October 18, 2000

Serial No.: 09/317,477

Art Unit: 1744

Filed: May 24, 1999

Examiner: Beisner, W.

For: Instrument for Detection of Microorganisms

Assistant Commissioner for Patents.
Washington, D.C. 20231.

RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S ACTION DATED APRIL 24, 2000

Sir:

In response to the examiner's action, please amend the above application as follows:

In the Specification:

On page 1, replace the priority statement previously added by the preliminary amendment with the following statement: - This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application

No. 60/086,503, filed May 22, 1998. - -

In the Claims.

Cancel claims 1-3 and 5-7.

(Amended) An instrument for detecting microbial growth in test vials containing growth media and dye material, comprising:

a multiplicity of light-sensor combinations, each combination comprising at least one light source and at least one light detector positioned at the location of each of the test vials, said light detector positioned relative to said light sensor to detect light emitted from the dye material when said light source illuminates said dye material;

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